(c) After inquiring into the causes of fire this Committee has recommended specific items for action by International Airports Authority of India, both for upgradation of fire detection and alarm systems, as well as for streamlining the monitoring of mainstream procedures.

Development of 'Pataal Panni' in Madhya Pradesh as Tourist Centre

62. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pataal Panni in Mhow district of Madhya Pradesh has all the potentials for being developed as an important tourist place in the State;

(b) whether Government propose to develop it on priority basis; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Development of any place for tourism purpose is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. Central Government will consider a specific proposal received from the State Government for extending financial assistance dependent upon *inter-se* priority, availability of funds and its merit.

Strike by pilots of Indian Airlines

63. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI.
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI N.E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the recent agitation of the pilots of Indian Airlines completely paralysed the services of the Airlines in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) amount of loss suffered by the Airlines on this account;

(d) What were the reasons for the agitation by the pilots;

(e) What remedial action Government have taken in this regard; and

(f) What action Government have taken to prevent the disruption of flights of Indian Airlines in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b): Some flights of Indian Airlines were affected due to pilots agitation in October 1992. Between 14.10.92 and 31.10.92, 283 scheduled take offs were cancelled.

(c) The loss suffered by Indian Airlines as a result of the agitation of the pilots of Indian Airlines during the month of October 1992 is estimated to be Rs. 74 lakhs.

(d) The main reasons for the agitation by pilots were lack of adequate safety measures at some airfields, and certain financial demands.

(e) The issue relating to safety measures have been referred for arbitration by Director General of Civil Aviation. IAAI/NAA are making arrangements to upgrade navigational/landing equipment at the various airfields in a timebound manner in keeping with technological advances. As regards the financial demands, the entire question of pay and allowances for all categories of employees of Indian Airlines for a period of five years w. e. f. 1.9.1990 stands referred to the National Industrial Tribunal. However, Indian Airlines management has offered to work out some productivity linked schemes of payments in consultation with the ICPA, provided normalcy is restored.

(f) Indian Airlines is taking suitable action against the concerned agitating employees to act as a deterrent in the future.